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## ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

SUBJECT: (Optional)

FROM		EXTENSION	NO.
Director, Foreign Broadcast Information Service			FBIS-0016/86
TO: (Officer designation, room number, and building)	DATE		DATE
	RECEIVED	FORWARDED	16 January 1986
COMMENTS (Number each comment to show from whom to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment.)			
1. Director, Management and Planning, DS&T Room 6E45, Headquarters			<p>This was well received and we got every encouragement to push on. Next step is a message to [redacted]</p>
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FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE

P. O. Box 2604

Washington, D. C. 20013

15 January 1986

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. William M. Woessner  
Principal Deputy Assistant for European and  
Canadian Affairs  
Department of State

SUBJECT: Establishment of FBIS Bureau in West Europe

1. This memorandum provides information on the steps FBIS is undertaking to establish a new bureau in West Europe and provides the rationale for such an establishment. A formal memorandum soliciting your concurrence in this action and assistance in obtaining the host government's approval will be forwarded when our plans have taken definite shape.

2. As you may be aware, FBIS has embarked on a large-scale modernization effort extending over the next 5-8 years that will improve not only its capacity to deliver its product to its customers in speedier and more effective fashion but also its ability to collect relevant intelligence information from modern news systems that are changing steadily as technology advances.

3. An important element of this program is acquiring an ability to monitor communications satellites for news of importance to the U.S. Government. A technical study we carried out in 1982 concluded that effective monitoring in the European area could be accomplished from our existing bureaus in London and Cyprus, but only of the then-typical "C-band" satellites. Meanwhile a trend toward the use of "K-band" satellites has become apparent among European countries with a shift away from the C-band. The K-band satellites with spot beam communications can be monitored more effectively from a site on the European continent, one of the several factors that leads to our initiative.

[REDACTED] While the cooperative arrangement with the BBC Monitoring Service will continue to be the highly profitable one it has always been for coverage of the Soviet Union and East Europe, the same cannot be said for West Europe, which is given comparatively low attention by the BBC for a variety of reasons. An FBIS bureau in Europe will overcome this deficiency and ensure expanded press, radio, and television coverage from West European sources, including access to databases and increasingly important cable communications systems.

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5. We are now engaged in preliminary coordination in Washington toward formulating a concrete plan for your consideration and approval. Our initial concept, which can be modified or changed completely as circumstances dictate, calls for establishment of an FBIS monitoring site in West Germany comprising approximately [ ] acres (primarily for the necessary antennas), and a staff of about [ ] U.S. nationals and [ ] foreign nationals (linguists, technicians, and clerical personnel). This makes attractive the notion of a bureau on an existing U.S. military base in Germany but by no means excludes an affiliation with U.S. Embassy [ ] or other arrangements.

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6. It is our plan to send a survey team [ ] in the near future to discuss possible sites and operational configurations. Assuming your concurrence we will prepare an outline of our requirements which will be sent [ ]

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Director

DDS&amp;T/FBIS

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